

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (currently amended) A thread control device for a textile machine, in particular for a shedding device, said thread control device comprising: ~~with~~ at least one thread guide member (31) which is moveable in one direction of movement by means of a positively designed drive (35) and in the opposite direction of movement by means of a nonpositive and pneumatically designed return device (36), the latter having a cylinder/piston assembly (64, 54), the cylinder chamber (52) of which is connected to a compressed gas source (60) via a valve (56, 56a), ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the valve (56, 56a) has a first valve seat (72, 72a) connected to the cylinder chamber (52) and a second valve seat (76, 76a) between which a valve member (82, 82a) provided with at least one throttle point (80, 80a) is moveable, which valve member, in the basic position, is prestressed against the first valve seat (72, 72a) by means of a spring (84, 84a), the throttle point (80, 80a) being inactive and the valve member (82, 82a) shutting off communication with the compressed gas source (60) when the valve member (82, 82a) is against the second valve seat (76, 76a).

Claim 2. (currently amended) The thread control device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the valve has a housing (70), at one end of which the first valve seat (72) is formed.

Claim 3. (currently amended) The thread control device as claimed in claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the second valve seat (76) is formed on a closing-off part (74) designed with a passage duct (78).

Claim 4. (currently amended) The thread control device as claimed in claim 2 ~~either one of claims 2 or 3~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the housing (70) is designed cylindrically, in which the piston-like valve member (82) is guided, sealed off with respect to the housing wall.

Preliminary Amendment dated May 25, 2006
Application claiming priority from PCT/CH2004/000669
Attorney Docket No.: UP-350

Claim 5. (currently amended) The thread control device as claimed in claim 2 ~~either one of claims 2 or 3, wherein~~ characterized in that a gap between the valve member (82) and the housing wall of the valve (56) serves as a throttle point.

Claim 6. (currently amended) The thread control device as claimed in claim 1 ~~one of claims 1 to 5, wherein~~ characterized in that the valve (56, 56a) is arranged in the cylinder chamber (52).

Claim 7. (currently amended) The thread control device as claimed in claim 1 ~~one of claims 1 to 6, wherein~~ characterized in that the valve (56, 56a) is arranged in the lowermost point of the cylinder (64).

Claim 8. (currently amended) The thread control device as claimed in claim 1 ~~one of claims 1 to 7, wherein~~ characterized in that the a closing-off part (74) of the valve (56) is connected directly to a feed pressure chamber (58).

Claim 9. (currently amended) The thread control device as claimed in claim 8, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the feed pressure chamber (58) has an oil separation outlet (88) for oil coming from the cylinder chamber (52).

Claim 10. (currently amended) The thread control device as claimed in claim 9, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the oil separation outlet (88) is arranged on a bottom (86) of the feed pressure chamber (58).

Claim 11. (currently amended) The thread control device as claimed claim 10, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ a connection (90) for compressed air is arranged, at a distance from the bottom (86) of the feed pressure chamber (58), on a lateral wall (92) of the feed pressure chamber.

Claim 12. (currently amended) The thread control device as claimed in claim 8 ~~one of claims 8 to 11, wherein~~ characterized in that the feed pressure chamber (58) of at least one return device (36) serves as a feed pressure and oil outflow device.

Claim 13. (currently amended) The thread control device as claimed in claim 1, wherein

~~characterized in that~~ a lower portion of the cylinder (64) serves as a valve housing and has a connection (90a) for the compressed gas source (60).

Claim 14. (currently amended) The thread control device as claimed in claim 13, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ an annular stop (71) is arranged inside the cylinder (64) and is designed as a first valve seat (72a) connected to the cylinder chamber (52).

Claim 15. (currently amended) The thread control device as claimed in claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the cylinder (64) is closed off by means of the closing-off part (74a), the latter having a sleeve part (96), the free end of which serves as a second valve seat (76a).

Claim 16. (currently amended) The thread control device as claimed in claim 15, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ an oil separation outlet (88a) is arranged on the closing-off part (74a).

Claim 17. (currently amended) The thread control device as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the switching pressure (PS) of the valve (56, 56a) can be set by a change in the prestressing force of the spring (84, 84a).

Claim 18. (currently amended) The thread control device as claimed in claim 17, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the prestressing force of the spring (84, 84a) can be set from outside.

Claim 19. (currently amended) The thread control device as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the maximum compression pressure (PK) in the cylinder chamber (52) can be set by means of the flow cross section of the throttle point (80, 80a).

Claim 20. (new) The thread control device as claimed in claim 3, wherein the housing is designed cylindrically, in which the piston-like valve member is guided, sealed off with respect to the housing wall.